

D. Joseph Shanly
208 Cricket Court
Cheshire CT 06410

March 5, 2023

Gary A. Winfeld, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Judiciary
Legislative Office Building Room 2500
Hartford CT 06106

Reference opposition to H.B. 6667 and H.B. 6816

Dear Mr. Winfeld,

I wanted to share my opposition to H.B. 6667 and H.B. 6816. These bills would adversely impact Connecticut's law-abiding gun owners and would not have an impact on Connecticut's violent, career criminals that commit the majority of violent crimes in our state.

It appears to me that Governor Lamont copied and pasted his proposed laws directly from the San Francisco based Gifford's Law Center in San Francisco, California. He did not do any research in Connecticut. The Gifford's organization is a gun control group whose blanket ideas and recommendations for other states' laws should not be considered in Connecticut.

One of Connecticut's most objective and respected newspaper reporters, Edmund H. Mahoney, wrote in The Hartford Courant on 02/20/2023 that gun violence in Connecticut is committed by a relatively small, violent group with felony records.

"The gun criminals are, according to the numbers, a relatively small, violent group with felony records. They commit a significant percentage of urban gun crimes while free on bond and awaiting trial on other crimes, or while on parole or probation after prior convictions and prison sentences, data shows. The analysis is based on arrest records collected by the Hartford and Waterbury police departments and was prepared by the Chief States Attorney's Office. The data shows the number of arrests in Waterbury is slightly less than in Hartford, but the percentages track.

In Hartford, shooting suspects had long criminal records; half those arrested over the last three years had been arrested in the city for something else within the prior year and one half. On average, they had 10 prior arrests, three for felonies. Most are men (95%), 18- to 34-years-old (70%)."

Firearms dealers are regulated by the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (BATFE). Massachusetts passed a law that required State and Local Police departments to inspect local gun dealers. This law has been a failure as it was poorly implemented and placed additional burdens on the Police Departments.

The requirements for Loaded Chamber Indicators and Magazine Disconnect Lockouts are intended to reduce the number of firearms offered for sale as many manufacturers will not redesign their firearms with these features. The ideas for micro stamping of cartridge cases has been discussed for many years. The technology is not there.

Sincerely yours, *D. Joseph Shanly*

